

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 AID-20 IGA-02 MC-02 DRC-01 /143 W

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R 011054Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1356

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJ: PAK NEWSPAPER ON US MILITARY SUPPLY POLICY

REF: ISLAMABAD 8398

1. REFTEL NOTED THAT, IN PAK EYES, QUESTION OF US ARMS SUPPLY POLICY WAS BY NO MEANS LAID TO REST AS RESULT PRIMIN BHUTTO'S US VISIT BUT REMAINS LIVE ISSUE. RECENT ARTICLE IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED NEWSPAPER PROVIDED RATHER EXPLICIT CONFIRMATION OF PAK VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. SPECIAL ARTICLE BY EDITOR IN CHIEF K.M. ASAF (WHO ACCOMPANIED BHUTTO TO US) ENTITLED "THE AMERICAN ODYSSEY" APPEARED IN OCTOBER 1 PAKISTAN TIMES. BULK OF ARTICLE CONSISTED OF PANEGRIC TO BHUTTO'S PERFORMANCE IN US. AT ONE POINT, HOWEVER, ASAF CITED PRESIDENT NIXON'S "CATEGORICAL STATEMENT" THAT PAKISTAN'S INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY WAS A CORNERSTONE OF US FOREIGN POLICY AND INTERPRETED IT AS MEANING THAT "THE US WILL NOT

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COUNTENANCE ANY ATTACK ON PAKISTAN'S INTEGRITY FROM WHICH-

EVER SOURCE IT MAY COME".

3. "IT IS WORTH ADDING", ARTICLE CONTINUED, "THAT SUCH A CATEGORICAL COMMITMENT CANNOT REMAIN CONFINED TO PAPER AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT HAS BEEN MADE WITHOUT ANY CRIPPLING PROVISIO. IT IS LOGICAL TO HOPE THAT SUCH A COMMITMENT MUST EVENTUALLY BE BUTTRESSED WITH THE SORT OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE THAT IS NEEDED TO PROTECT A COUNTRY'S INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS TALKED OF AN "UNDERSTANDING ON BASIC MATTERS"....ONCE SUCH A MEETING OF MINDS HAS TAKE PLACE, THE REST FOLLOWS LOGICALLY AT ITS APPOINTED TIME... IT SHOULD NOT BE VERY LONG BEFORE THE NEW RELATIONSHIP BEGINS TO BEAR FRUIT."

4. OPPOSITION, MEANWHILE, HAS BEGUN CRITICIZE BHUTTO VISIT AS FAILURE BECAUSE HE DID NOT OBTAIN US MILITARY AID. TEHRIK CHIEF ASGHAR KHAN AND JUI LEADER MUFTI MAHMUD BOTH QUOTED IN SEPTEMBER 30 URDU LANGUAGE NAWAIWAQT AS MAKING THIS POINT.
SANDERHOFF

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